

To The Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 559 without my signature.

While I support the author's goal of coordination between state and local agencies on oversight of brownfield cleanup projects, current law already has an established coordination program for such projects.

This bill would establish a pilot project intended to provide additional coordination of the interactions between local public agencies and the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the State Water Resources Control Board, and Regional Water Quality Control Boards on brownfield cleanup and redevelopment. This pilot project would create an unnecessary and redundant oversight program with significant costs. The California Environmental Protection Agency Site Designation Committee has already established much of what the author wants to demonstrate with her proposed pilot program.

Further this is not the year to add another unnecessary program to California statute. The bill would create an additional bureaucratic layer, resulting in increased costs to the state during a time of budget shortfalls.

For these reasons I am unable to support this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger